

PEACE NEWS

No. 488 October 19, 1945 2d.

Expulsions from the East

CHURCHMEN UNITE IN OPPOSITION

THE Bishop of Chichester (Dr. G. K. A. Bell) moved the following resolution in the Upper House of Convocation on Wednesday of last week:

This House deplores the expulsion of German families in the eastern parts of Germany and the Sudetenland from their homes and occupations as a violation of the principles of humanity that the allies are pledged to uphold; it hopes that HM Government will continue to make representations to the Governments of Russia, Poland, and Czechoslovakia to end these miseries and will do all it can, in co-operation with the USA, to sustain those who enter our zones of occupation; it calls on Churchmen to support the Government in these endeavours and to accept continued restrictions in imports and rations in order to release transport, coal, and food during the coming winter for the peoples of Europe.

The resolution was seconded by the Bishop of Birmingham (Dr. E. W. Barnes) and carried unanimously.

LAVAL'S END IS NO CREDIT TO FRANCE

Britain's test is still to come

THE trial of Pierre Laval has thrown a sudden and unsparing beam of light upon the moral condition of France and Europe today. The contrast between his moral courage and the indecency of his judges is the contrast between a man who had the determination to pursue what he believed to be the true interest of his country and men who had considered nothing but their own personal safety.

The judges who condemned him had obeyed his orders, and professed to regard his power as legitimate. Elementary decency should have made them decline the office of judging him. Instead, they sought to prove their "patriotism" by the zeal with which they denied him justice.

Dante alone would be able to pass adequate sentence upon them. France should not have permitted such a parody of justice. It would have been far better to shoot Laval out of hand. It is the pretence of justice that is revolting—and corrupting.

Laval's realistic policy

WE have always urged Laval was the best, as he was the ablest of French pre-war politicians. At the end of the last war, he came to the clear conclusion that another war would be absolutely disastrous for France. There were two distinct phases in his policy: one during which he hoped and schemed for a balance-of-power coalition against which Germany would not fight. This policy of his was frustrated by Britain when, misled by irresponsible "idealism" it disowned the Hoare-Laval pact and thrust Italy into the arms of Germany. When France thus became politically isolated, the second

Observer's Commentary

phase began, in which Laval worked for direct collaboration with Germany. It was a sane and realistic policy, to which there was no practicable alternative. Laval pursued it openly. He openly opposed war with Germany, and when it had been declared, waited for the defeat which he knew to be inevitable. Then he came forward and did his best to secure the position of France as a junior partner in the German New Europe.

In that effort he was different from the great majority of Frenchmen, only by the courage he showed in taking political responsibility. The notion that France as a whole resisted, or had the will to resist, is a fantasy. In condemning Laval the cowardly element of the France that acquiesced in the German victory has condemned the man who had the courage of his convictions.

Britain's test still to come

THAT may sound superior. It is not meant that way. Whether Britain is really in better case than France, has yet to be proved. Our testing time is to come. It is well on

'SAVE EUROPE NOW'

Over 40,000 back the deputations

EARLY this week the response to the original "Save Europe Now" appeal had topped the 40,000 mark—and the completed lists of signatures were only beginning the return journey.

Peace News learns that two categories of persons have responded to the appeal in numbers out of all proportion to their total size. The first is Channel Islanders: 35 out of one sample bundle of postcards were from Jersey and Guernsey, many telling a story of personal contact with German occupation forces over the past five years. The other most heartening response is from Servicemen. Many of them are repatriated Prisoners of War; many others are serving with the British Army of the Rhine.

★ Last week's remarkable meeting at the Conway Hall is being energetically followed up. Two deputations were being assembled this week to see the Prime Minister and such other Ministers as he may designate. One deputation will elaborate the six-point policy resolution. The other will be concerned with the voluntary sacrifice scheme, which the second resolution asked the Government to sponsor "without delay."

the cards that Britain also will reveal, by her inability to manifest a new sense of responsibility at home and abroad, that she has not the moral energy necessary to carry through the democratic socialism to which she is committed. In that case, she will fall into much the same condition that France is in today. France is one stage further advanced in disintegration. No position could well be more false than that of claiming the privilege and power of victory, when the real happening was defeat.

But Britain likewise is in a false position: she, without the help of America and Russia, could not have beaten Germany. Her position is now very like that of France in 1918: unbeaten indeed, but exhausted, and victorious only by the help of two more powerful Allies. Unless she is capable of the energy to develop a positive policy of peace—in a union of social democracies—she also will go morally downhill.

Clarity and confidence

IF anything effective can now be done to create confidence between Russia and the Western Allies at the highest level, it will certainly not be achieved by talking about it. Much the best way, I believe, is for Britain to go ahead, with as much determination and clarity as Russia herself, in pursuing the policy which she believes to be right. The only way the Russians themselves have indicated of restoring confidence is that we should accept all their demands and endorse all their actions.

There are obstacles enough in the way of a Social Democratic federation of Europe. There is American financial opposition; there is the very powerful influence of the Communist parties of Western Europe, busily engaged in sabotaging the one hope of a democratic renaissance in the West.

"At present the chief task of the Com-

(CONTINUED ON BACK PAGE)

The plight of Holland . . .

There is, alas, another side to the picture of German privation. It is shown in the following extract from an appeal to the American public on behalf of the Dutch by Dr. Howard Kershner, written at the end of September.

THE major part of the destruction in the Netherlands is not from flooding but rather from bombing, gunfire and theft by the Germans. Arnhem, Nymegen and large sections of The Hague and Rotterdam have been levelled as well as scores of smaller cities and towns. Almost all of the bridges have been destroyed, and many of the railroad rails and overhead electric cable for tram cars and trains, carried into Germany. Machinery, tools and public utility installations are gone. Safe deposit boxes were looted. Of 30,000,000 chickens only 3,000,000 are left. Of the same number of hogs only 10 per cent. are left. 500 schools and 1,000 churches are destroyed and perhaps as many more seriously damaged. 200,000 homes are in ruins and 900,000 people, or one tenth of the population, are homeless. A much greater number of houses have been seriously damaged. The Germans have taken 88 per cent. of the freight motives, 95 per cent. of the freight cars, 55 per cent. of the passenger cars and 80,000 or nearly all the autos, buses and trucks.

All thin and hungry

The tram cars operate two hours in the morning and about the same time late in the afternoon. Gas is available for an hour before each meal only and the family ration of electricity is enough to light a 100 watt bulb for three hours a day. Six months ago the food ration was down to 400 calories a day. Now it is sufficient in carbohydrates, thanks to wheat from America and Canada, but painfully low in proteins and fats. The meat ration is 50 grams per week or about one half of an ordinary small serving. The Dutch people are all thin and very hungry.

The medical inspector for the Pro-

vince of South Holland accompanied me to the principal hospitals of The Hague and Rotterdam and to several nursery schools. We saw many tubercular children who had contracted the disease on account of low resistance due to undernourishment. We saw undersized and sickly babies born of undernourished parents. We saw many children with chronic dysentery attributed to eating tulip bulbs and other matter unfit for food during the past year. We saw skin infections due to lack of soap. We saw many starvation cases, some with wizened little bodies and old faces, some with swollen stomachs and limbs and other so-called dry cases.

4-year-olds—15 lbs.

The famine period ended four months ago but there are many who have made no progress toward recovery. I saw children of four years of age weighing only 15 pounds. The regular hospitals are all full and many barracks and school buildings have been requisitioned for auxiliary hospitals. They are equipped with home-made wooden bedsteads and coarse ticks filled with straw or shredded paper. Bathing and feeding equipment are most primitive and in some cases sheets and pillow cases are wholly lacking.

Nursery schools in the poorer quarters where working women bring their children are simply bare rooms without equipment of any kind. There are no playthings, no chairs, no picture books—not a thing to relieve the drab misery of the bare, dingy unheated rooms. The children were sitting on the floor eating porridge from broken crockery. The inspector said: "This would be a disgrace if we had the means of doing better. But the Germans have taken all. Equipment for these nurseries does not exist in Holland. We have money but we can buy nothing." It is pitiable to see the clean, capable, normally well-living Dutch people reduced to such straits. Most of the children were bare-footed, some had kleppers, rude wooden soles fastened to the feet with strips of leather, canvas or with strings.

Many little feet are being permanently injured by such contraptions. I saw thousands of children all over the Netherlands hobbling to school in kleppers or in wooden shoes. Holland has but little soft wood suitable for making such shoes. Most of it comes from Belgium. Now it does not come, for Holland has no means for making payment. The poor quality of wooden shoes now being delivered will last only two or three months and only 10 per cent. of the normal requirements of the country are coming in.

We went down into Arnhem, that ghost city around which the battle lines surged for these eight weary months. The walls of two great churches stand like skeletons amid the piles of debris. Six months ago, Arnhem was completely deserted. Now 70,000 of her 100,000 people are back, clearing away rubble and hoping to rebuild. It is pathetic to see them working so hard without tools or materials. Bricks could be made but there is no coal. Only 60 per cent. of the normal amount of coal is being mined. Greater production awaits mining machinery and locomotives, and these require rails to run on. Everything is lacking and to produce it requires something else that is lacking. All has been taken to Germany. Dutchmen living near the border see their cows grazing in Germany but are powerless to get them back. Dutch locomotives and tram-cars are hauling German people and goods while Hollanders walk and go without the necessities of life. Holland's very able Foreign Minister, van Kleffens, told me of the vigorous measures being taken to reclaim some of this property, but so far the military authorities in Germany will not give it up.

THOSE POST - WAR CREDITS

SINCE the war began there has been a fresh income tax development called post-war credit. This is a Treasury device to prevent us from having too much money to spend. Most of our readers will, no doubt, possess a few of the pretty blue or red certificates, though many of the 12 million holders have, we understand, already lost them!

Never mind, they are valueless. You are credited with the amount even if you cannot produce the certificate. We hope, however, that PN readers still hold a full quota of them, because we have a novel idea for their disposal! The aggregate of these credits to date is £600,000,000. We have our eye on a little bit of that. But will such a colossal debt over be honoured? Many people doubt it; at which scepticism the Financial Secretary to the Treasury has recently expressed pained surprise.

Well, be that as it may, it will be a long

time before you are likely to touch the money it represents. In these circumstances, some canny opinion in the City recommends people to "forget all about them!" That is sound advice. The best way to follow it is to send your certificates to us together with an undertaking to pay to our fund, when they are honoured, the whole, or any part you may choose of their value. We will keep a careful record of all certificates lodged with us; we will remind you of your kind promise when the time comes, and we shall be very grateful for all the help offered in this unique form, from war savings, which we have all been making whether we want to or not.

MAUD ROWNTREE,
CORDER CATCHPOOL,
Joint Treasurers.

Contributions to Headquarters Fund since Oct. 5: £13 10s. 6d. Year's total to date: £416 9s. 1d.

Donations to the fund should be sent, marked "Headquarters Fund," to the Treasurers at Dick Sheppard House, Endsleigh St., W.C.1.

PEACE NEWS

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should be addressed to the Manager

"Full sight of the worst"

MANY things conspire to make our minds impervious to the appalling catastrophe which does not merely threaten Europe, but has already overtaken it.

There is first, the practically complete black-out of news from the Eastern zone—the lifting of which was promised at Potsdam, yet nothing has been done. Then there is the almost invincible reluctance of the sensitive mind to contemplate the horrors of which it has some knowledge. This reluctance is not to be blamed; it is in the nature of a biological mechanism to preserve the capacity of living within us. We cannot undo the horrors that have been perpetrated. If we are fortunate enough to believe in a fairer and nobler life hereafter we may find some mitigation of them. Nevertheless, "nor God nor demon can undo the done." But those who have no such consoling faith—and they are the great majority today—can do no other than to realize, with a shrug, that their animal organizations cannot stand the contemplation of this naked evil, and to connive at the erection within themselves of a psychological barricade against it.

We have appealed before now in these pages to the lines of Thomas Hardy:

If way to the better there be,
It exacts a full sight of the worst.

We are grateful to them still. They have helped us through many a bitter time. Yet today they seem to be losing their old virtue. We are incapable of a full sight of the worst. Consider this description of the expulsions from Eastern Germany.

"They were ejected forcibly from their homes, pushed out by blows with rifle-butts and with kicks. The small amount of luggage they managed to bundle together was either stolen or wantonly destroyed during the repeated encounters they suffered on the way. To the physical torments and fatigues was added mental distress: nearly all women and girls had very often to pay 'body toll' en route. Many of them thus contracted V.D.

In one clergyman's family, friends of mine, four generations have been infected, from the 83-year-old grandmother to the 7-year-old great-grandchild.

"One mother who, as she crossed the frontier, was raped several times in the presence of her children, believing that she would never be able to survive the shame, tried to open the arteries of herself and her three children. The attempt failed, and the consequence is that all three children have now a crippled hand with which to reproach their mother for the rest of their lives."

That is taken from the account of a German pastor, who is well known to many Friends in England, in *The Friend*, of Oct. 12. We read it, and read it again. But the shutter in our mind comes down.

Europe—"liberated" Europe—is become a ghastly and unimaginable Hell, where men in hundreds of thousands are behaving with a bestiality that is, literally, incredible.

We should not, in honesty, talk of the possible collapse of European civilization. We should recognize that it has collapsed. Then we may more clearly grasp the necessity of building a new one. To that vast constructive effort we are called—we the tiny minority who are pacifists, and the great majority of Englishmen who are not. Now what unites us, if we can but see it, on both sides, is infinitely more important than what divides us.

In this new civilization, if it can be built, the dread evil of totalitarianism will be disintegrated. It can never be overcome by war. If we strive to build a civilization based on respect for the individual man, we shall find that the menace of war will disappear as we proceed. The political expression of respect for the individual man today is democratic socialism, in a federation of social democracies. That is the form of the new civilization—societies of peace, united in peace, and for peace. Into that society the German people must be welcomed—now, by individual act and by national policy.

"Occupation requires conscription", says
LAURENCE HOUSMAN, it is part of the

COST OF SLAVERY

BY insisting upon "unconditional surrender," the Allied Powers imposed upon the defeated nations conditions of slavery; conditions which, in the case of Germany, will force the victors to maintain an occupying army for a period which may amount to as much as twelve years; nothing shorter than five years has yet been suggested. Let readers bear that in mind, when they are considering the question of conscription. The Atomic Bomb may have made large scale conscription in preparation for "the Next War" seem ridiculous and out of date. It has not dispensed with the necessity of conscription for an occupying army to hold down a great subject nation with a population which is about double our own—though it may be that, before the winter is over this superfluity of an enemy people may be comfortably reduced by some hundreds of thousands, if not millions.

Share or starve

But whether we try to save as many lives as possible by sharing with them our own sufficiency of food, or whether we callously let them starve (reckoning that the more we allow to die the less difficult will it be to hold down the remainder)—whichever course we take, an occupying army will still be necessary; and for an occupying army (which is going to be well-fed and warmed while round it scores of thousands, including children, will be dying of cold and hunger) how can you avoid conscription?

For so disgusting and damnable a task are you going to get volunteers? Buchenwald on a larger scale: will Englishmen of their own free will volunteer for that?

Then, if you must have conscription, who are you going to conscript? Are you going to prolong the conscription of those who have already endured years of the steadily mounting horror—moral as well as material—of a six year war? Would not that be a monstrous injustice? But if you do not keep them in bondage to be your slave-drivers, you must conscript

fresh drafts which have not yet had to face war; and that means the young.

Pacifists tell me that it is very unfair to conscript those who were not responsible for the war. Of course it is unfair: the fundamental unfairness of war imposes on those who accept war, and are determined to prepare for another, a continuance of unfairness as a logical necessity. As you cannot wage war without unfairness, neither can you prepare for war without unfairness.

One-sided argument

But the argument that it is specially unfair to the young, is a one-sided pacifist argument, based on a total disbelief in, and disapproval of, war as a remedy. It cannot be honestly used by those who believe in war as a means of salvation. For believers in war it would be a far greater injustice to say that those who have already spent years in saving their country, and the lives and liberty of the rising generation, are to remain conscripted for a further number of years, while the young, for whom they suffered and bled, go free.

Very naturally they say—or they ought to say, "It is for the young now to take their turn in paying for the salvation which others—their elders—have won for them." And as the majority of those who are now objecting to conscription are non-pacifists, and believers in war, they are supporting a greater injustice if they mean to insist on the government maintaining its Army of Occupation for an indefinite number of years, from those who have already done conscript service for three, four or five years, instead of replacing them with fresh drafts who have not yet had to make any sacrifice of their liberty.

The logic of occupation

And so the only way to be honest in opposition to peace-time conscription is to go to the root of the matter, and recognize that acceptance of war, and preparedness for the next war, makes conscription a necessity; and even if it did not—even if fear of the Atomic Bomb comes to our rescue before we next go to war—what does make conscription an absolute necessity is the country's acceptance of the policy of holding Germany in servitude for a number of years by an Army of Occupation which is not in the least likely to be a voluntary one, and which must therefore be freshly conscripted to avoid greater injustice to those who have already served. Let anti-conscriptionists force the government to abandon that policy, as a first necessary measure for getting themselves out of this rut of mere wishful thinking which leads nowhere.

You cannot enslave a nation without enslaving yourselves: slavery and slave-driving are two aspects of the same evil. Loss of liberty falls on both.

Words of Peace—No. 146

My feeling is that a man should die rather than be made a soldier against his will. One's country has no right to demand everything. There is much that is higher and better and greater than one's country. One is patriotic only because one is too small and too weak to be cosmopolitan. If a country cannot get along without a military conscription, it had better give up—and let its children seek other ties.

—Anthony Trollope, in a letter, 1862.

LETTERS

No fooling about conscription!

I have read the article by Laurence Housman with very great interest, and agree in the main with his points.

But, to logically carry out his argument would mean putting back the whole question of conscription until some possible utopian day, a day which we will all strive for, and which we all believe in, but is it wise or practical?

Did the agitators against slavery in the 18th and 19th centuries say that slavery could not be abolished until a perfect classless society had come into being?

Conscription is slavery, make no mistake about this, it gives one man or a party of men absolute and unlimited control over the lives of other men; it gives the ruling party the ability to use these slaves just when and how they like, and all the vast mass of people are kept quiet by specious words and fine phrases about Democracy, Patriotism, etc.

Laurence Housman is probably right in his contention that "if non-pacifists think that they can go forward to meet the possibilities of another world war without accepting conscription as a necessary accompaniment, they are fooling themselves."

But peace-time conscription is a great lever in the hands of the "belletrist" government: the weapon is ready trained, and to hand; so that, I maintain, first of all we must remove this very dangerous tool from the hands of any government, and they will be rather more chary of plunging us into war; 1938 and Munich showed what could happen. What would have happened if we had had a conscript army in 1938?

The government of that day simply had to shew a more conciliatory and pacifist attitude: all because they had no force behind them.

The abolition of conscription is an urgent task and it must be tackled at once and not tacked on as an appendage to a future policy of absolute pacifism.

(Rev.) J. BLACKMORE.

Downshire,
Waltham St. Lawrence, Reading.

Surely Laurence Housman is not correct in his contentions about conscription. He says, "But is there not a danger that pacifists will be merely truckling to wishful thinking, unless they make their non-pacifist supporters face up to the unwelcome fact that a continued acceptance of war on a totalitarian scale (and, therefore, of preparation for it) as an eventual possibility, makes conscription a logical necessity."

I should have thought that recent changes in methods of warfare have rendered conscription unnecessary even for a warring nation. It is now possible for any small nation, with a handful of aircraft and a few hundred men, to wipe out the most powerful nation. The line we should take is surely to point out this fact. That, therefore, conscription is no longer a military necessity but has become purely a method of political expediency. It has no use except as a weapon to suppress,

not the enemy or potential enemy, but one's own people. Conscription now is a part of a totalitarian state, it has no other use. Let us point that out and we should get a greater body of people opposing it.

JACK SUTHERLAND.

152 Camberwell Road,
London, S.E.5.

Three-way traffic

"Observer's" critic should beware of exaggeration. Flag-waving or Rule Britannia usually accompanies over-statement of a case. From where does Mr. Monteith get his "millions of pounds or tons of gold" exported by South Africa on our behalf to the USA? Gold production in the Union amounts to 12,000,000 ozs. or 1,000,000 lbs. per annum. Transvaal mines have to spend over £30,000,000 (1938 figure) on stores alone each year in order to produce this gold, and although some of this expenditure is made outside the Union it is in the main incurred by South African companies and not by "Rule Britannia" which has no jurisdiction over the affairs of the Dominions. Gold exported has to be paid for by imports and we now have South Africa more self-sufficient than before the war.

Thus all the flag-waving in this country cannot get away from the fact that if her gold is exported to the USA the Union will have to purchase much of her own imports in the former country.

H. KNEBEL.
(Late Editor, "Mines of Africa,"
Mines of Rhodesia.)

The Hayes, Atworth,
Nr. Melksham, Wilts.

No release for C.O.s

Your report "No release from conditions yet," of the CBCO apparent difficulty with the Ministry of Labour re an early decision is too amusing for words.

Surely, unless there is put into operation a "demobilization" of COs, it must be obvious to all that the unfortunate position sooner or later will arise of the COs (only 30,000, of course) in work with the ex-Servicemen unemployed.

FREDERICK B. MAY.

34 Russell Road,
Walton-on-Thames, Surrey.

Getting down to it

The issue of Sept. 28 is very welcome. I had begun to think that the PPU had no more to say on the contemporary situation than, "War is Evil; Renounce War; Oppose Conscription," which is as relevant as using rouge and face powder to cure smallpox.

Now your leading article, Laurence Housman, Alan Staniland and Percy Redfern all in one copy, try to get down to the real issues and I am thankful.

BERT TAVENER.

132 Boughton Green Road,
Northampton.

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DEMobilisation-FOR WHAT?

DEMobilisation is on everyone's lips. The soldier, having worked out his release group, anxiously scans the newspapers for the promised notice of his discharge. The Aircraftman wonders whether he would have been released earlier had he joined the Army or Navy. The so-called "ballotees," "optants" and volunteers for the mines write vigorously to their MPs asking how demobilisation plans will affect them, while the land girl looks at the cowshed and pig-sty with the unspoken question, "How long yet?"

The thirty thousand conditionally registered Conscientious Objectors, many of whom have been tied for years to long hours in Civil Defence, to arduous duties in the hospital and monotonous work in the fields, ask themselves the same question. For many months now the Central Board for C.O.s (6, Endsleigh-street, W.C.1), of which I am Employment Secretary, have been pressing for conditionally registered C.O.s to be released from their conditions on the same basis as the men in the Forces, so that whilst receiving no preference they should yet be free from penalisation on account of their stand. All sorts of practical difficulties have arisen, readers have been very patient, and I am hopeful that before very long now a statement may be possible. I am not saying we shall get all we want, but at least we shall have done our best and will continue to do so.

When the glad day of demobilisation of the first C.O.s arrives, what are their prospects? The Employment Section of the Central Board is open to all. Though the great majority will be unable to compel their old firms to take them back, many have been promised a return to their old jobs when the time comes; others have already made their plans based, perhaps, on practical experience in the war years or on a new-found sense of service to society. Others, again, who were called up at too young an age either to start training or to finish training already begun, will be faced with some difficulty because their stand as C.O.s may well preclude them from obtaining Government grants that would have been open to them had they been in the Forces.

It is especially for C.O.s such as these who are without sufficient funds that the new C.O. Training Fund has been set up, and though the Central Board Executive is still working out a few detailed principles to guide them in making grants, the outline of the scheme is clear.

During next week, which is C.O. Fellowship Week, meetings are being held all over the country to enable C.O.s to discuss together the problems facing them and the best way in which they can discharge their responsibilities in the complicated new world of the peace. I do urge you to take part in the first Fellowship Week

after the end of the war, and so mark the end of one epoch and the beginning of another. The old order changeth giving place to new, and the nature of this new epoch depends ultimately upon the keenness of each one of us. I know all will help to "Keep Conscience Victorious."

JACK CARRUTHERS.
(Licensed by the LCC as an
Employment Agency).

YOUTH versus BARRIERS

I AM glad to commend the International Youth Review, published quarterly (3d.) and obtainable from Arthur Bird, "High Cross," Bishop Tawton, Barnstaple, N. Devon. If the younger generation are to be adequate to the task of establishing peace in the coming years, at least two things will be required of them: understanding of other peoples and their problems, and faith. Faith is not easily attained. Men come by understanding more readily; but even understanding is not readily achieved by us all.

An informative and attractively written magazine will help many young people to be more aware of the complexities, possibilities, and wonders of the world they live in. The International Youth Review is this kind of magazine. Vera Brittain, Reginald Sorensen, Leslie Burgin are among their contributors. The barriers of colour, race, nationalism and language have been the subjects of recent articles. Good quality magazines for young people are all too few. I warmly commend this one.

P. H. F.

Pacifist farmer on the air

Bob Gray, a pioneer pacifist in the West, who was responsible for the Dorchester Peace Rally in 1935, broadcast in the BBC series "Personal Choice" recently.

In introducing his selection of gramophone records he reminded his unseen audience of the inspiring day when he had heard Dick Sheppard, George Lansbury and Laurence Houseman speak on "Peace" at the Roman Amphitheatre in Dorchester. As he arrived the crowd of 10,000 were singing "Jesus Shall Reign."

"WITNESSES" CLEARED

After two years of legal proceedings, four Jehovah's Witnesses in Brazil have been cleared of charges against the State, reports Worldover Press. A high magistrate decided that their conduct could not be proved to have political bearing, but merely constituted religious practice.

"I RENOUNCE WAR AND I WILL NEVER SUPPORT OR SANCTION ANOTHER."

This pledge, signed by each member, is the basis of the Peace Pledge Union. Further information from: General Secretary, PPU, Dick Sheppard House, Endsleigh St., London, W.C.1.

Polish pacifist who had no enemies

THE War Resisters' International announces that it is now in working contact with all the members of its International Council. It is already able to co-operate again with its members in Poland, Czechoslovakia and Bulgaria, in addition to those in all Western European countries. A remarkable number of the International's members in Europe have "survived the storm." Some of the old movements are already being reorganised and several new ones formed.

The most remarkable news comes from Poland, where Amelia Kurlandzka, writing from Warsaw on 27th August 1945, says:

"I am living with my mother and I am working in the library of the High Agricultural School. This is all that remains unchanged—everything else disappeared."

"I decided to sit tight. I had no enemies, consequently I did not fear denunciations. I managed to get a false Arbeitskarte and hoped that I should not be carried away to Germany and forced to work for Germans."

Amelia Kurlandzka is a Polish Jewess. A frail little woman with indomitable courage. For 20 years she has been the ambassador of the Polish pacifist movement, attending many W.R.I. conferences in different parts of Europe and has often stayed in Enfield. After the Warsaw rising, she writes: "We were driven away from our house by German soldiers—the common fate of all Warsaw inhabitants—and transported first to the Pruszkow camp and then near Cracow. . . . As soon as we heard of the taking of Warsaw by the Russian Army, we returned home."

"I found my lodgings fortunately not burnt (as most others) but plundered. After two operations and two months in bed, I recovered."

"Our best friends here are dead. Rytka Kraus was murdered by the Germans in the Warsaw Ghetto. Daniel Skwinski was shot. He lived in Kochowo, a small village near Skidel. The partisans had damaged the railway-track not very far from the village. The German punitive expedition came to Kochowo and shot all inhabitants—men, women and children. Then the village was burned."

Greetings are sent from Marian Lubecki, leader of the Polish W.R.I. who "went to the country" and has survived.

Clothing for Polish children

There is desperate need for clothing at a home for displaced Polish children at Travemunde, near Lubeck. Many of the children have suffered privations, and are recovering from the effect of malnutrition. This information comes from a member of a Save the Children team which is working at the home. Gifts of small parcels of clothing can be sent by post care of Dr. Doyle, British Red Cross, Hospital Section 6, B.A.O.R. Larger consignments which are too big to be posted should be addressed to HS/6/SCF, 20 Gordon Square, W.C.1.

CONSENT - or COMPULSION?

Peace by Compulsion. Dr. L. P. Jacks. Peace Aims Pamphlet No. 26. National Peace Council, 144 Southampton Row, W.C.1.

The NPC have done well to reproduce this article from The Hibbert Journal; it appeared there from the pen of its then editor more than a year ago, but it is more than ever pertinent today. It is a searching analysis, and will—or ought to—make readers think. Perhaps they may not like to be told that "all political states at bottom are war-making institutions," or that "a world of non-war-making states is a flat impossibility."

If the project of Peace by Compulsion is too risky, there are, he says, two alternatives, Peace by Consent and Peace by Inadvertence. If you read the pamphlet, you will find out what he means by the latter. It may be added that this whole series is of great value.

The eleventh Dick Sheppard anniversary gathering

will be held at Friends' House, Euston Rd., London, N.W.1, on Oct. 27, with the performance of a play to follow in the evening at the Cripplegate Theatre, Aldersgate. At Friends' House the programme will be:

3-4.15: Music and readings: Esther Hulbert, Austen Smith, Robert Thomson.
4.15-5.30: Tea (1s. 9d.) and opportunity for fellowship.
5.30-6.30: Meeting. Chairman: Donald Soper. Speakers: Alex Wood and Donald Port.

COs can meet informally in the CO FELLOWSHIP ROOM, 4.0 to 5.30 p.m. Arranged by the London Regional Board for COs.

The play "Gates of Mercy," by Bryan Anstey and Roy Walker, will be performed by the North London Players, at 7 p.m. Seats (numbered and reserved) 1s. 6d., 2s. 6d., 3s. 6d. Tickets available at PPU, 6 Endsleigh St., W.C.1; Peace News, 3 Blackstock Rd., N.4; and London Area PPU, 8 Endsleigh Gdns., W.C.1.

Requests for hospitality to London Area Office by Oct. 22. Tickets are not required for the meetings at Friends' House: admission 1s.

Pacifist Guinea-pigs

DR. KENNETH MELLANBY has written a very readable account of his research work on scabies with pacifist subjects at the Sorby Institute ("Human Guinea Pigs," Gollancz, 4s. 6d.). The problem was serious. The information suggested that at the end of 1941 over a million persons were infected with scabies throughout Britain. And although the investigation did not yield any surprising results—the old sulphur ointment treatment if thorough enough is still excellent; though benzyl benzoate emulsion has been proved better still—very valuable information about transmission was acquired.

But it is as an objective study of the behaviour of pacifists living communally as "guinea-pigs" that the record is of particular interest.

"One disadvantage about pacifist volunteers, when they are used in experiments on disease, is that they are much too 'tough.' Whereas, when browned off by training and so forth, the ordinary soldier tends to report sick . . . pacifist volunteers, unless carefully watched, will carry on even when seriously ill . . . I find that care must be taken to avoid overlooking early symptoms due to the pacifists' dislike of being thought 'soft,' the difficulty is to impress the importance of noticing symptoms without making the volunteer into a temporary hypochondriac."

CLASSIFIED ADVERTISEMENTS

PLEASE READ CAREFULLY
LATEST TIME for copy: Monday before publication.

TERMS: Cash with order. 2d. per word, minimum 2s. 6d. (Box No. 6d. extra). Please don't send stamps in payment, except for odd pence. Maximum length: 50 words. Address for Box No. replies: Peace News, 3 Blackstock Rd., N.4.

When corresponding with PN about an advertisement, quote its first words, classification, and date. We reserve the right to hold over advertisements and to limit the frequency of continuing advertisements.

ACCOMMODATION

EDUCATED REFINED young pacifists offered three med. etage. Cornish valley 10s. quarterly. Gdn., water, suit writer. Walker, Latchley, Gunnislake, Cornwall.

GEOFFREY DANDO now at 86 Onslow Gdns., S.W.7, will welcome and reward informt. leading to tenancy of 4 or 5-med. unfurnished flat in any dist. of London. Pl. write or phone Ken 3163.

C.O. and wife urgently requ. furnis. rms. or flat in London pref. Central. Richards, 33 Brook Rd., Fairwater, Cardiff.

BED and Breakfast wanted cent. London. Mondays to Fridays. Brian Cummings, 3 Warborough Rd., Oxford.

PACIFIST couple requ. furnis. or unfurnis. rms. with or without board. Own linen. Chelmsford dist. Smith, 77, Harewood Av., Newark.

DERBYSHIRE HILLS. Food Reform Vegetarian Guest House for happy holidays or restful recuperation: all modern comforts. A. and K. S. Ludlow. The Briars, Crich, Matlock (Station): Ambergate: Tel. Ambergate 44).

RUSHMORE Guest House, Selsey. Home comfort. Ideally situated. Caters for conferences and group meetings during off season. Write Victor Smith (Manager for Stephen Stoner & Co. Ltd.).

SOMERSET LOVELY Mendip country, small, vegetarian, food reform Guest Hse., non-dairy a speciality. Situated in 16-acre market-gdn. Amy Little, Uplands, Winscombe. Tel.: 2257.

EDUCATIONAL

FREEMOUNT SCHOOL, Bacton. Hereford. Individual tuition, varied activities, free expression, communal home. Intelligent children temperamentally difficult, helped to balanced development in ideal surroundings. Katherine and Peter Young, M.A.

SPEAKING AND WRITING lessons (correspondence or visit) 5s.; classes 1s. 6d. Diffident, nervous, and hesitant people specially helped, also stammerers. Dorothy Matthews, R.A., 32 Primrose Hill Rd., London, N.W.3. PRImrose 5686.

FOR SALE & WANTED

WANTED AUTO-CYCLE or very light lady's motor bicycle. Must be reasonable. Box 172.

WAR RESISTERS' International wd. welcome gifts of foreign stamps for subsequent sale on behalf of W.R.I. funds. Any such gifts received with gratitude. Pl. send to the War Resisters' International, 11 Abbey Rd., Enfield.

"BURLS" the conscientious cycle maker, for your new cycle. Frame repairs, wheelbuilding, gear service and accessories. 797 Old Kent Rd., S.E.15. New Cross 4129.

LITERATURE, &c.

QUAKERISM. Information and literature respecting the Faith and Practice of the Religious Society of Friends, free on application to the Friends' Home Service Committee, Friends' House, Euston Rd., London, N.W.1.

"WHY I Believe War will be Abolished" obtainable free from John Ward, 4 Florence Drive, Enfield.

FREEMASONRY, as seen in relation to the Christian faith. 100-page book by Rev. Penny Hunt, B.A., 2s. 8d. From Prophetic League, 21 Poplar Gve., New Malden, Surrey.

MEETINGS, &c.

S.W. LONDON Dist. C.O. Wk. gatherings, 260 Streatham High Rd. Tues.: Denis Hayes; Fri.: Rev. C. T. L. Payne. Commence 7.30. Speakers, 8.15. Refreshments, admiss. free. Your problems answered. All welcome. Keep Conscience Victorious!

BRISTOL, 3 p.m., Sat. Oct. 20, Friends Meeting Hse., Broadweir. Spkr.: Joe Brayshaw, followed by a social evening.

ALLIANCE HALL, Palmer St., S.W.1 on Sun., Oct. 28, 3 p.m. People's Peace Crusade mtg. Chair: Corder Catterpool. Speakers: Bryan Anstey, Roger Page.

LEEDS C.O. Advisory Cttee. C.O. wk. Reunion, Sat., Oct. 27, Friends Mtg. Hse., Woodhouse Lane, 2.45; N.E. Regional Annual Mtg., 5.30. Pooled Tea: 7 p.m. Rally. Spkr.: Rev. Reg. Sorensen, M.P.

LONDON FORUM Public Lecture, R. B. Andrews, "Reason & Crisis," Alliance Hall, Palmer St., Westminster, Oct. 22, 7.30.

BARNET: Ewen Hall, Wood St. Tues., Oct. 23, 7.45 p.m. Public mtg., Reginald Sorensen and Dr. Fred Cornelsen on "Europe and Ourselves." Chairman: Rev. Glyn Lloyd Phelps.

PERSONAL

CONTACT CORRESPONDENCE CLUB. A satisfactory medium for those desiring congenial pen-friendships. Partics., stamp. Sec., PN, 19 Ty Fry Gdns., Rumney, Cardiff.

JOIN Victory Correspondence Club, 34 Honeywell Rd., S.W.11, for congenial pen-friends.

YOU WILL FIND true friendship in the L. and H. C. Correspondence Club. Send s.a.e. for partics. to Sec., L. and H. C. C., 39 Reighton Rd., London, E.5.

C.O. DESIRES contact with any person interstd. in starting "Vegetarian Guest House." Box 171.

A HAPPY communal home of chaps can offer hospitality to any genuine fellows badly needing a build-up at their healthy Kent Farm; co-operation according to ability. Write first Stansfield Assoc., 84 Regent St., W.1.

LITTLE MARKET-GDN. community in difficulties. would greatly welcome help during crucial autumn period. Any offers? Will also take paying guest. High Hse., Bromsash, Ross-on-Wye.

SITUATIONS VACANT

We cannot confirm satisfactory conditions of employment in all posts advertised. Applications in doubt are recommended to consult the Central Board for COs, 6 Endsleigh St., W.C.1., which will often be able to give useful advice.

PACIFIST FARMER reques. cowman, small herd. Mod. etage. Half day wkly. and alternate Sundays off. Refs. Evered, Snowford Hall, Nr. Leamington.

COMPOSITOR wtd. for printers of Peace News. Apply: Clifford Printg. Co., 12th Manor Rd., London, N.16.

SECRETARY - SHTHND. Typset. Responsible wk. Apply: Gen. Sec., PPU, 6 Endsleigh St., W.C.1.

LADY WITH three yng. children offers a home to yng. girl willing to give all round help. No rough wk. expected. Sal. commencing £1 wkly. to suitable applicant. Mrs. Metcalf, 130 Wootton Rd., King's Lynn, Norfolk.

MANAGING DIRECTOR for Peace News, Ltd. Gen. administrative ability, exp. of publicity and circulation methods. Some prntg. and production knowledge an asset but not essential. Pacifist. Applns. or enqurs. to Sec., Peace News, Ltd., 3 Blackstock Rd., London, N.4.

SITUATIONS AND WORK WANTED YOUNG MAN wants pt-time wk. literary/scholastic abilities. Psychology interest but anything considered. Box 170.

YOUNG LADY reques. clerical position, preferably in Southern England. Exp. shthnd.-typg., bk-keeping, corr., gen. office wk. Has had charge of small gen. office. Box 173.

PACIFIST VARIOUS quals. expert driver holding P.S.V. licence. Exp. corn chandler's lorry driver and tractor driver; also mechanical and handyman wk. Any int. wk. accepted. Single, wd. need acmtdn. or etage, 39 Sinclair Mns., Richmond Way, Shepherds Bush.

ACTOR AMATEUR, 27, C.O. sound exp., 3 mths. prof. Rep. clerical exemption, desires clerical wk. in prof. theatre, prefly. with opportunity to act. Box 174.

STRONG MAN 25 yrs. reques. farm emplty. and etage in Midlands. Limited exp. drive lorry, car, 6 yrs. in seed, provender mill. Rimes, Posenleigh, Cricklade Rd., Cirencester, Glos.

MISCELLANEOUS

INSTITUTE PSYCHOLOGY, Kensington. Lectures every Tuesday, 7 p.m. Philosophy, genuine social introductions. Consultations all problems. Western 8935.

ACCOUNTANT C.O. writes up traders books, prepares Profit and Loss Accounts, Balance Sheets and Income Tax Returns. Company formations arranged. Audits and costing undertaken. Box 96.

NORTH LONDON PLAYERS remind all folks wanting to attend the first performance of the "Gates of Mercy" by Bryan Anstey and Roy Walker, at the Cripplegate Theatre, Golden Lane, on Oct. 27 at 7 p.m., not to delay getting tickets as all tickets may well be sold before day.

NATURE CURE—Psychological & Drugless Treatment of Disease by Reginald Bailey, Psychiatrist, Nerve Specialist and Bates Practitioner (eyesight corrected by natural methods); Daisy E. Bailey, Specialist in Women's ailments and Children's complaints; Reg. J. Bailey, Osteopath, Naturopath. Consultation by appt.—bedridden patients visited and postal advice given. Details and explanatory pamphlets sent on request. 134 Hoppers Rd., Winchmore Hill N.21. Palmers Green 7868.

The root of the matter

by WILFRED WELLOCK

THE atomic bomb is the product of a purposeless and rudderless civilisation. For that reason it has thrown the minds of men and of governments into utter confusion and confronted mankind with a hopeless future, whose only measuring rod is naked power.

Yet the atomic bomb is but the logical outcome of the discovery of gunpowder, and the dropping of it nothing more than large-scale sniping, the one liquidating individuals, the other nations. The difference is so colossal, however, that it is driving men from the complacency of habit into the consternation of upheaval.

When men fell in singles, or later in tens, hundreds and even thousands, the nation which could afford the largest number of rifles, tanks and aeroplanes could win wars, while their enemies could survive. But with the emergence of the atomic bomb the smallest industrial nation may produce the planes and the bombs necessary to obliterate a much larger country than Britain.

This means that the Big Powers must pay more attention to the Little Powers, lest the latter put their heads together and decide that the world was made for common folk and not for the Dinosaurs of a decadent civilisation. Is not the earth strewn with the remains of mammoths whose cumbersome breeds have ceased to be.

How, then, may we expect the Big Powers to regard the Little Powers? In the absence of a religious renaissance they will probably carry power politics to a new low level and either control or devour them. The two super Powers of the moment, the USSR and the USA, must be expected to disarm and police the whole world, and to divide it up for that purpose into agreed upon hemispheres: which would merely mean an extension of the process now in operation in Europe and the Far East.

In certain circumstances this might not be a bad solution, but in a world of power politics and conflicting ideologies it is one step nearer to the final explosion.

Consequently the logic of the atomic bomb is that mankind must become pacifist or submit to slavery and destruction. But the pacifism must be fundamental and integral, must spring from a new outlook upon life and a re-estimation of its values.

In other words, the issue today is what it has been throughout the last century, although not realised until now, viz., the choice between power politics and good living, between a limitless standard of living, privilege and a society divided against itself, and a life which sets a bound to material possessions and self-indulgence and seeks wholeness, contentment and well-being.

ACCORDINGLY I find myself unable to support John Middleton

About Ourselves

I. PEACE NEWS PAMPHLET

A new pamphlet in the Peace News series is published to-day. It is called "Pacifism and the Political Struggle," and is written by Donald Port. The price is one penny, plus postage, to those who do not already receive the series.

II. SIX-PAGE P.N. NEXT WEEK

Next Friday's Peace News, which will be published in time for the Dick Sheppard Anniversary gathering, will be a six-page issue.

It will introduce to our readers a new and eminent contributor—the Very Rev. W. R. Inge, ex-Dean of St. Paul's. In addition, it will contain a long poem written in and on Hamburg, 1945, by Harcourt Williams, a note by Laurence Housman, and other special features. The price remains at 2d.

III. HOUSMAN'S OPEN

On Friday next Housman's Bookshop will be officially opened.

An informal lunch-time gathering, at which Alex Comfort, Hugh PA, Fausset, Kingsley Martin, Herbert Read, and—of course—Laurence Housman will give the venture their blessing, will be held at the shop, 124, Shaftesbury-avenue. By two o'clock the doors should be open and book buyers and prospectors among our readers will be very welcome inside.

Murry's contention that pacifists should support the proposal for "a genuine parliament of all the nations which should confer the authority to control the use of atomic energy upon a Council of Great Powers responsible to itself." Without the birth of a new mind and the acceptance of values which make possible political action at a new level, this proposal would merely lead to a repetition of the old League Council and the recent San Francisco Conference, and confound the public by once again inducing it to pin its faith to a broken reed. The word "genuine" begs the question.

The paramount issue today is whether religion or power politics, spiritual or material values are henceforth to govern the conduct of men and of nations. The only world conference I can see any use for is one which meets to consider the nature of man and of the life he ought to lead, the values he ought to seek, and the means—political and economic—by which they can be made realisable by all. The struggle for power and for limitless standards of living can only be ended by the acceptance of a system of values which determines and controls material wants. But this carries us into the sphere of philosophy and religion.

WHAT are the signs that the USSR, the USA and Britain are ready for such a conference? Power politics are more rampant to-day than ever in the past. Consider its current operations. Germany and Japan are being cast out of the orbit of international trade and are to be reduced to an agricultural status. Britain takes back Singapore and Hong Kong, the USA pockets numerous islands in the Pacific, and Russia numerous islands and ports in the Pacific and ports in the Baltic—all for strategic (which includes trade), reasons. The USA suddenly terminates Lend-Lease, while Britain and the USA enter a suicidal war for exports.

It amounts to this, therefore: The atomic bomb is the proof and product of the divorce of science and religion, just as the conditions which make its use inevitable are the product of the divorce of economics and religion. I used to argue that our international problems could not be solved on the political level until politics embraced economics; I now contend that they cannot be solved until politics embrace the values which are the province of religion.

There lies the big task for pacifism. But talking is not enough. The values which are pacifism must be woven into the very fabric of human life.

A 4d. Primer for "Save Europe Now"

THE House of Gollancz have produced an attractive fourpenny pamphlet of precisely the right weight to serve as a primer for fieldwork in "Save Europe Now" campaigning.

It is called "Europe and Germany: Today and Tomorrow," and it gathers together articles from the Economist, the New Statesman, and the Tribune which, taken together, outline the problem grimly and cogently suggest lines of solution.

"Europe and Germany" is available from all the usual sources: PPU Bookshop, the NPC, and, of course, the Gollancz office at 14 Henrietta St., W.C.2.

ROY WOODWARD CASE IN COMMONS QUESTION

In a detailed written answer in the Commons on Oct. 9, the Secretary of State for War, Mr. J. Lawson, admitted that Roy Woodward, the 18-year-old Manchester CO, had refused to put on military uniform at Stake Hill Detention Barrack, and had been dressed by the Staff on several occasions. He had immediately removed his "clothing" and wore only a towel round his waist.

Woodward had been sent to the Army on the finding of the Appellate Tribunal, and must himself be held responsible, as his uniform had been in his room at the Barrack throughout. The Central Board for CO's is pressing the matter further.

Social-democratic policy wanted

'OBSERVER' CONTINUED

munism in Western Europe appears to be the occupation of 'veto positions.' While they are not strong enough to lead the country, it is their principal endeavour to prevent any development regarded as undesirable by the Soviet Union. In practice this means above all that they concentrate their efforts on opposing that closer co-operation of democratic socialist Western Government which, whatever its real purpose, will be branded as 'a Western bloc directed against Russia.' (Tribune, Oct. 12).

Resoluteness needed

IT is difficult to emphasize sufficiently how urgent it is that the British Government should clearly conceive and resolutely pursue a coherent domestic and foreign policy of democratic socialism. The policy which has been followed in the British zone of Germany of damping down and discouraging the Social Democrats is stupid, in itself: when to it is added the definitely reactionary policy followed by the Americans in Bavaria (prior to Gen. Patton's removal) it becomes sinister.

Yet everything is propitious for a genuine revival of Social Democracy in Western Europe and Germany and Austria. Communism is heavily discredited by the ruthlessness of the Russian procedures. But Social Democracy needs to be positively encouraged. The sooner British Trade Union delegations get to work on the job in the British zone the better. The blunder by which Mr. Hynd, who is now in control of the political line to be followed in Germany has been made subordinate to the Secretary for War, should be corrected without delay. This is a matter in which full civilian control is imperative.

Shrinking from new Belsen

THE Russians are now reported to "suspect" Britain and USA still further because USA is beginning to veer away from the criminal policy of "pastoralizing" Germany to support of the British view that enough of her industry and equipment must be preserved to enable Germany to maintain a human standard of life. In other words, we are suspect because we shrink (a little) from the Russian plan of Belsenizing Germany.

The plain fact is that the Big Three never came near agreement on the treatment to be meted out to Germany; but they agreed to drown their disagreement under a torrent of words. The ruling principle of the Potsdam agreement is, ostensibly, that the Germans should be enabled to maintain a standard of life equal to the average European standard. That has meant in practice nothing whatever.

The Russians have paid not the faintest regard to it: they have taken everything they could lay hands on in the way of removable capital equipment, they have pushed into the rump of Germany ten or twelve million miserable refugees. They have done their best to make the problem of Germany quite insoluble, except by deaths by the million.

The indifferent Titan

RUSSIAN Communism—or Titanism—is deliberately careless of the individual life. "The One remains, the Many change and pass," so to speak. The One being the Russian State, or World Communism, or the New Jerusalem—for all I know or care—the Many being "the individual beings or Man," whom I do know, and for whom I care. A few million Germans the less—or a few million Russians for that matter—what difference does that make, if only the Big Idea marches on?

Maybe the Russian cynics are right, and we are as bad as they—the difference being simply that they do openly what we suffer to be done in the alleys and by-ways of Empire. Still, the fact that we do not do it openly, and now dare not do it openly, may be our saving grace. When we get to "liquidating" classes and nations, as a matter of cool policy, perhaps we shall have proved ourselves fitter to survive than we are; but we shall cease to be Englishmen.

"These things happen in war"

OUR record in Germany is equivocal enough as it is. Read Leonard Mosley's "Report from Germany"; and the Burgomaster's remark when a British soldier, attempting to rape a German girl and alarmed by her screams, has shot her throat and

chest away.

"These things happen in war, the Burgomaster said. We don't blame the British. A German might have done the same thing. There are good and bad everywhere."

By general consent, we have improved on that within our zone. We are even hoping to give the poor devils 1,350 calories a day: or two-thirds of a subsistence ration. We are working up to the standard:

Thou shalt not kill, but needs't not strive Officially to keep alive.

And that is Utopia in Germany today. Read Gedy's story (Daily Herald, Oct. 9) of conditions in the camps in which the Czechs—those model republicans and democrats—have herded their miserable German women and children. Gedy puts it down to "a sadistic desire of those responsible to inflict on these helpless creatures the same horrible treatment which has made the name of Nazi symbolical of human bestiality."

The dykes are down

TRULY, those gallant little nations for whom Britain was encouraged to go to war—Poland and Czechoslovakia—do not appear to have been any better than the big one which oppressed them. An elegant extract from the Polish record appears elsewhere in this issue. To say that this is what must be expected from those who have been under the Nazi heel is to surrender civilization: and it is untrue. Norway and Denmark were also under the Nazi heel: they have behaved in no such fashion.

Some terrible miasma of brutality and bestiality seems to emanate from Eastern Europe. It has raged on and on for generations. But now it seems to be spreading. There are pogroms in the new Poland, as in the old one. The dykes are down, and barbarism is flooding in from the East.

Whether or not it was the Nazis who threw down the dykes is no matter now. What matters is that we should build them up again. Save Europe now is the humanitarian challenge: but humanitarianism in these days is not enough. It must be backed by a policy at once imaginative, clear and resolute: the policy of building up a democratic-socialist Western Europe against the destruction that is threatened both from Russia and USA.

Next week is:

C.O. FELLOWSHIP WEEK

Attend your local meetings, help the C.B.C.O., support the C.O. Training Fund!

Keep Conscience Victorious!

C.B.C.O., 6 ENDSLEIGH STREET, W.C.1

NEWS FROM SCANDINAVIA

Caxton Hall

Tues., Oct. 30, 7 p.m.

MISS VERA BRITAIN

RECENT EXPERIENCES IN

SWEDEN, NORWAY, DENMARK

Admission Free Reserved Seats 2s.

(From Women's International League, Flat 8, 144 Southampton Row, W.C.1)

THE SAVE THE CHILDREN FUND

PUBLIC MEETING

commended by the Archbishop of Canterbury.

"SAVE EUROPE'S CHILDREN"

Dr. HOWARD E. KERSHNER
Chairman, Overseas Committee, Save the Children Federation, flying from Paris to give first-hand report on Norway, Holland, Belgium and France.

Mr. VICTOR GOLLANCZ
on starvation in Germany and the possibilities of British aid this winter.

Mr. ROY WALKER
author of "Famine Over Europe."

Mr. GERALD BARRY
Editor of the "News Chronicle," in the Chair.

CAXTON HALL, WESTMINSTER
7 p.m., FRI., OCT. 19, 1945
ADMISSION FREE

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